IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.:

Confirmation No.

Applicant:

Russell L. Miller et al.

Filed: TC/AU: Examiner:

Docket No.: D1243 1010.1

Customer No.: 30166

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicant has filed the instant Continuation Application of Serial No. 09/989,502, filed November 20, 2001, now pending. This is a Preliminary Amendment.

If any fees are required for this Preliminary Amendment, Applicant requests that this be considered a Petition therefor. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required to Deposit Account 09-0528.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 8 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.